

MARVEL®

#3 IN A FOUR-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES

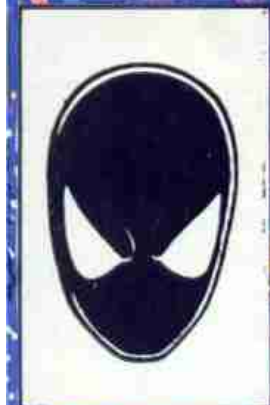


60c
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3
MAY

HERCULES

PRINCE OF POWER



THE DEADLY LEGACY OF CAPTAIN MARVEL!

HotComic.net

Stan Lee presents

DEADLY LEGACY

IN THE
SYSTEM
OF SOL--

--ON AN ASTEROID
NEAR TITAN, A MOON
OF THE SIXTH PLANET--

--THERE IS A
HIDDEN TOMB!

DULUKA,
INFORM SHRECK
THAT WE'RE
INSIDE AND
READY TO
PROCEED!

CRACKLE
NO NEED! I
COPIED YOU!
ADVANCE FIFTEEN
METERS STRAIGHT
AHEAD, THEN HOLD
YOUR POSITION...
CRACKLE
OVER--

AFFIRMATIVE,
CAPTAIN!

THERE ARE ALSO--
TOMB-ROBBERS!

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WELL, YOU HEARD THE MAN-- GO AHEAD!

ER...NO, NO... THE HONOR IS ALL YOURS! I INSIST!

AW, FROPP! GET OUTTA MY WAY, YA POOFAHS! I'LL TAKE THE POINT!



SLOWLY, THE THREE THIEVES PRESS ON INTO THE DARKNESS OF THE TOMB!

HEY, DEEN! IT'S SOME OF OUR GUYS! TH-THEY'RE D-D-D...

...DEAD! W-WHAT D-DO YA SUPPOSE GOT 'EM?

IF THEY WERE LIKE YOU TWO THEY PROBABLY SHOT THEMSELVES ACCIDENTALLY.

WHAT'S THIS...?



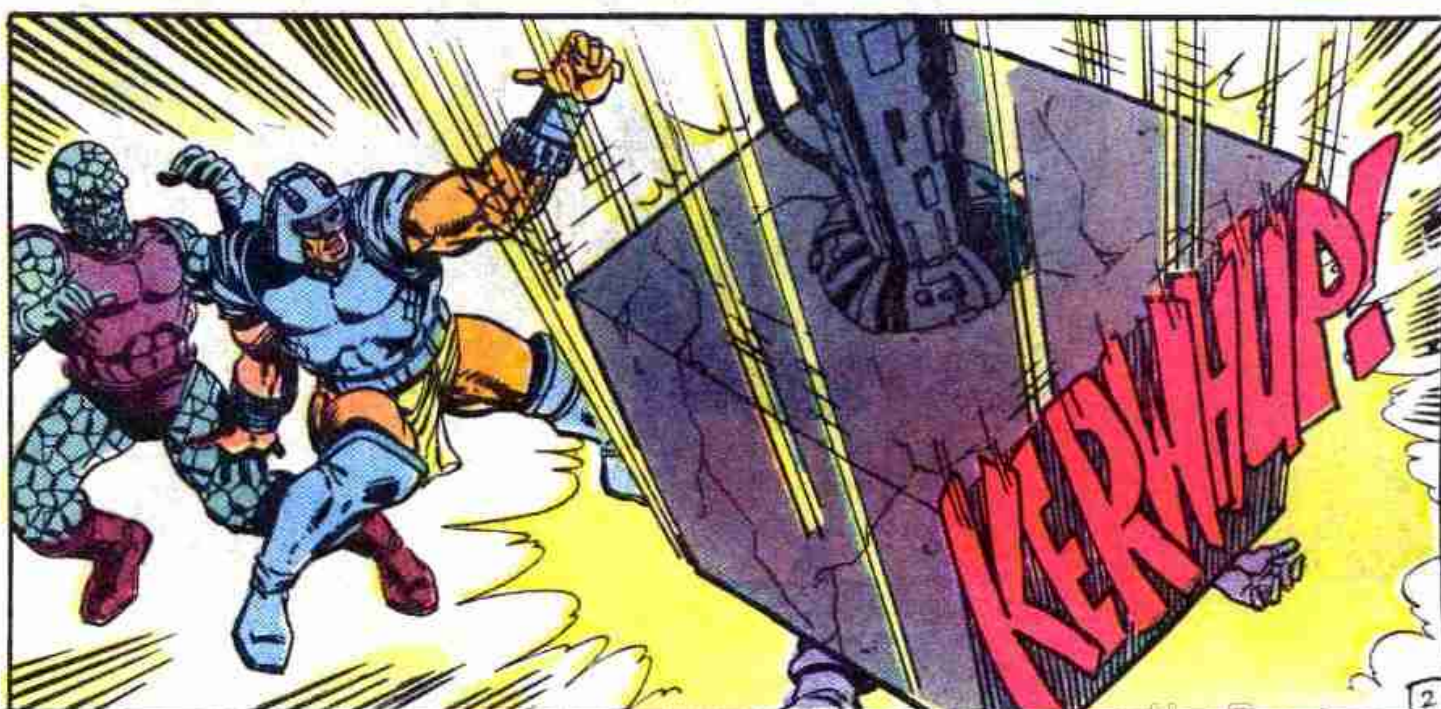
HOLY... WILL YA LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT SPARKLER ?!!

WELL...WE MIGHT AS WELL TAKE IT! MAYBE WE CAN TURN A PROFIT ON THIS GIG WITH NO--



STOP! DON'T PICK IT UP!

-- STRINGS ATTACHED?



KERWHUP!



THROUGH THE CORRIDORS OF
HYPER-SPACE, THERE TRAVELS
A MOST GALLANT CREW:

THE GREEK DEMI-GOD KNOWN
AS HERCULES, BANISHED FROM HIS
HOME OF MT. OLYMPUS BY HIS FATHER,
ZEUS, TO LEARN THE LESSON OF
HUMILITY--

--THE RECORDER, THE
ROBOTIC OBSERVER FROM
RIGEL SENT TO DOCUMENT
THE OLYMPIAN'S EXPLOITS--

-- AND THEIR
NEWEST COMPANION,
A SHAPE-CHANGING
SKRULL NAMED SKYPPI!
HE IS NOT, BY NATURE,
A HAPPY PERSON!

SKYPPI -- HOW
MANY TIMES MUST
I ASSURE THEE
THAT NO HARM
SHALL BEFALL US
WITHIN THE EN-
CHANTED CHARIOT?

IT AIN'T NATURAL,
HERC! YOU THINK
BEIN' HAULED
THROUGH SPACE
IN A FLYIN'
BATHTUB BY
A COUPLE OF
FOUR-LEGGED
HAYBURNERS
IS NATURAL?

WELL... AS
A MATTER
OF FACT, I...

OH,
NEVER
MIND!

AND JUST AS WELL, FOR
THE SON OF ZEUS'
THOUGHTS ARE OCCUPIED
BY MATTERS OF GREATER
IMPORTANCE!

HE RECALLS HIS NIGHT-
MARE OF A FEW DAYS
AGO IN WHICH HIS FATHER
ZEUS HAD SLAIN ALL HIS
KIN ON OLYMPUS! HE
AWOKE ONLY TO FIND
THAT HE HAD BEGUN TO
AGE-- AN UNNATURAL
OCCURRENCE FOR AN
IMMORTAL!

HE RESOLVED
TO RETURN TO OLYMPUS
TO SEEK THE CAUSE.

HOWEVER, HIS PROGRESS
WAS HALTED BY RED WOLF,
A DEMONIC SKRULL-
KILLER BENT ON TAKING
SKYPPI'S LIFE!

ONLY AFTER SOME PERSUADING
BY HERCULES WERE THE
TRIO ABLE TO CONTINUE THE
JOURNEY THAT WOULD TAKE
THE LION OF OLYMPUS-- (4)



-- HOME!

OBSERVATION:
EXIT POINT FROM
HYPER-SPACE WILL
BRING US TO
RENDEZVOUS
POINT WITH OLYM-
PUS/EARTH PROX-
IMITY IN 8.07
HOURS, SIR!

EXCELLENT,
FRIEND
RECORDER!
LET US
MAKE ALL
HASTE!
I FEAR
THAT...



BUT BEFORE
ANOTHER WORD
IS SPOKEN--

GREETINGS,
HERCULES! I
BESEECH YOU TO
DETOUR YOUR
JOURNEY TO TITAN!
YOUR PRESENCE IS
MOST URGENTLY
NEEDED THERE!

MENTOR!

HEY, HERC!
WHO'S
THE GUY
WITH THE
BIG HEAD?



HE IS THE MOST WISE
RULER OF TITAN, AND
ALLY OF THE LION OF
OLYMPUS!

HOW DO THESE TITAN
GUYS FEEL ABOUT
SKRULLS?



METHINKS...
THE SAME
AS EVERY-
ONE ELSE!

I THINK I'D
BETTER SLIP
INTO SOMETHIN'
MORE COMFOR-
TABLE!

THE AGE-OLD
CIVILIZATION OF TITAN
IS LODGED WITHIN
THE BOWELS OF ITS
INHOSPITABLE SUR-
FACE! AFTER PASSING
THROUGH THE AIRLOCK
PORTALS OF THE
CRATER-POCKED
MOON OF THE PLANET
SATURN, THE TRIO
EMERGE INTO--





FOR A TIME,
THERE IS
SILENCE.



THEN--
MENTOR, I DO NOT
WISH TO SEEM RUDE,
BUT I MUST DEPART
THIS PLACE AT ONCE!
THERE BE PRESSING
MATTERS ELSEWHERE
THAT--

I
UNDERSTAND
OLYMPIAN...

...BUT
I THINK I
MIGHT BE ABLE
TO SHED SOME
LIGHT ON
YOUR PROBLEM!

HOW
SO?

WITH THE HELP OF
ISAAC*WE CAN SCAN
TOWARD OLYMPUS AND
PERHAPS DISCOVER
SOME CLUE AS TO WHAT
HAS TRANSPIRED!

BETTER NOT TO RUSH
HEADLONG INTO SOME-
THING POTENTIALLY
DANGEROUS,
WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

*THE PLANET-WIDE
COMPUTER CONTROL
SYSTEM LOCATED AT
TITAN'S CORE--BOB.

AYE! THOU ART WISE,
MY FRIEND! SO BE IT!



IN THE MEANTIME, I
BELIEVE I WILL SHOW
THIS VISION OF LOVELINESS
SOME OF THE FINER
SIGHTS OF TITAN!

B-BUT...
I... I...

SEE
YOU LATER,
COMRADES!



AFTER EROS HAS DEPARTED--

DON'T YOU THINK
YOU OUGHT TO TELL
EROS THAT THE
LADY IS A
SKRULL?

THOU KNOWEST? THOU
ART WISE, INDEED! BUT
THOU ART HIS FATHER--
WHY DOST THOU NOT
TELL HIM?



WELL... HE'S
GOING TO BE
PRETTY UPSET!
DO YOU WANT
TO TELL HIM?

NOT I! HOW
ABOUT...?

STATEMENT: NO WAY!

MEANWHILE, BACK ON THE TOMB- ASTEROID, DHIELUS SHRECK COMPLETES HIS PRAYER TO MENTOR'S DECEASED SON, THE DEMI-GOD WHOSE RELIGION PREACHED DEATH---



GREAT THANOS, WATCH OVER ME, YOUR LAST DISCIPLE, AND I WILL OBTAIN POWER BEYOND REASON! POWER ENOUGH TO DESTROY YOUR ACCURSED ENEMIES!



SQUELCHING HIS FEAR, SHRECK LOWERS HIMSELF INTO THE PIT--



--KNOWING FULL WELL THAT HE MUST SUCCEED OR HE WILL NEVER SEE THE OUTSIDE AGAIN!



BACK ON TITAN---

THE COORDINATES FOR EARTH/OLYMPUS ARE LOCKED IN, BUT THERE IS A PROBLEM...



WHAT IS THAT, ISAAC?

OLYMPUS EXISTS ON A PLANE IN SIMULTANEOUS CONJUNCTION WITH EARTH, AN INTER-DIMENSIONAL PROBE WILL REQUIRE A GREAT DEAL OF POWER TO MAINTAIN...

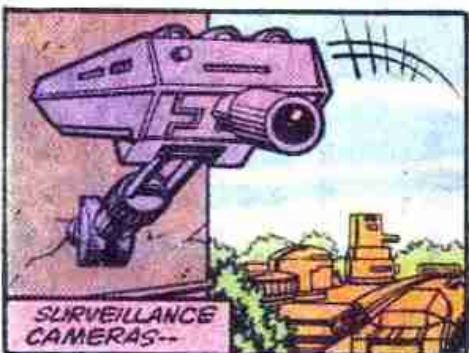
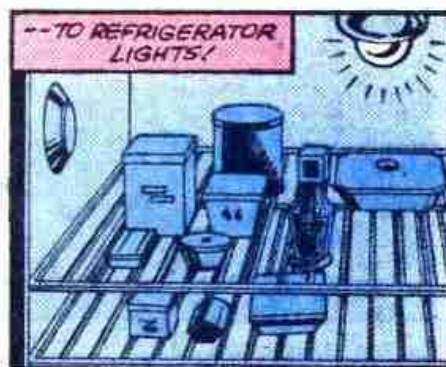
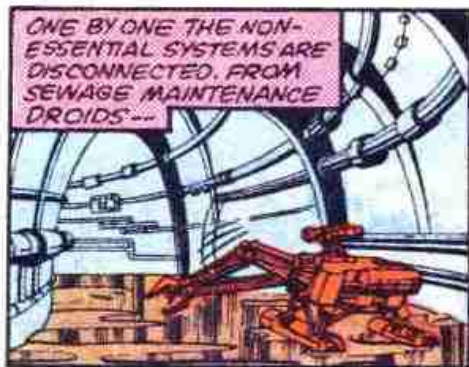


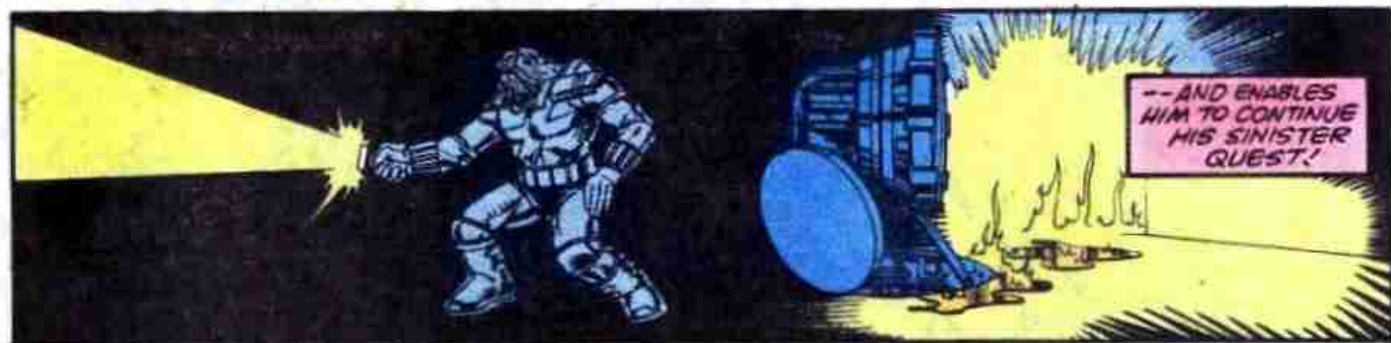
REQUESTING SHUT-DOWN OF ALL NON-ESSENTIAL SYSTEMS TO CONTINUE PROBE...

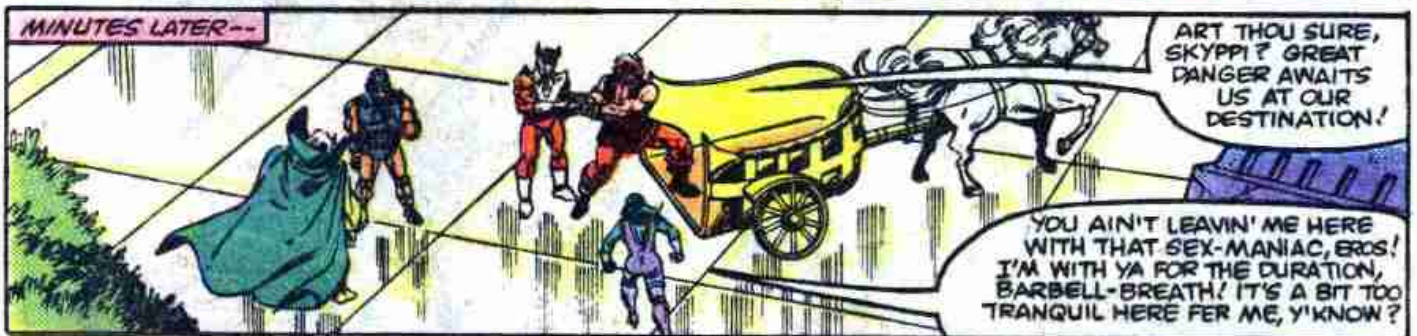
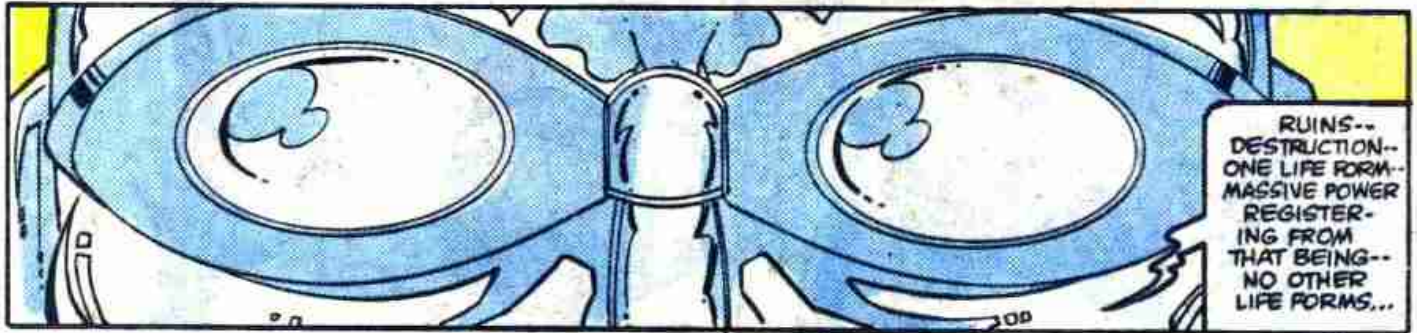
AGREED, ISAAC! YOU MAY PROCEED.

AFFIRMATIVE... COMMENCING SHUTDOWN...









YOUR MOMENT OF DEATH IS AT HAND, TITAN-SCUM! I AM SHRECK--LAST DISCIPLE OF THANOS! AND NOW THAT I POSSESS THE FULL PHOTONIC POWER OF HIS HATED FOE, CAPTAIN MAR-VELL, I COME TO SEND YOU ON YOUR JOURNEY TO JOIN MAR-VELL--

BY THE TWELVE MOONS--

HE HAS--

--MAR-VELL'S NEGA-BANDS!

-- IN OBLIVION!

SHRAARRR!

SHRAARRR!

BY ZEUS'S THUNDER! THOU TRULY HAST THE MIGHT OF OUR LONG DECEASED ALLY! THOU HAST VIOLATED THE DEAD TO CARRY OUT THINE MAD SCHEME!

THOU MUST PAY FOR THY HEINOUS ACT, SHRECK!

HAVE AT THEE, DEFLER!

KERWHAM!



FOR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS
I HAVE WAITED TO FULFILL
MY MASTER'S DARK DREAM!
NONE SHALL STAY
MY HAND, OUTSIDER!
NONE!

ARGGH!



YOU MAY HAVE
STUNNED THE
OLYMPIAN, SHRECK,
BUT YOU STILL
HAVE THE MIGHT
OF EROS TO
CONTEND
WITH!



COME THEN, DESPISED
BROTHER OF THANOS! HOW
IRONIC THAT YOUR DEMISE
SHOULD COME FROM--



-- THE POWER OF
YOUR ONCE DEAREST
FRIEND! HA! HA!
HA!

SSZZZZKKKKX%

RENDERED
UNCONSCIOUS,
EROS PLUMMETS
TO THE PLAZA
BELOW, WHERE--



VERILY,
SHRECK
WIELDS
UNCANNY
POWER,
RECORDER! HE MAY WELL
CARRY OUT
HIS SINISTER
TASK!



SPECULATION:
PERHAPS
I COULD CO-
ORDINATE DATA
WITH ISAAC
AND ATTEMPT
TO DISCOVER
SOME WEAKNESS
IN HIM, SIR!



KER THOOM



BE OFF WITH THEE,
THEN! WE SHALL
ENDEAVOR TO HOLD
HIM HERE!

BUT THAT TASK MAY BE
EAGERER SAID THAN DONE!

ONCE YOU ALL ARE
DESTROYED, I SHALL
RAZE YOUR BELOVED
CIVILIZATION TO THE
GROUND-- THUSLY!



SHRRARDOOM!











"...POWER WHICH HE USED TO COMBAT THE INSANE PLANS OF THANOS, THE MAD WARLORD OF TITAN... THANOS WORSHIPPED DEATH AND PLANNED TO SACRIFICE THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE TO WIN THE FAVOR OF HIS SHADY PARAMOUR.

" ONLY WITH THE AID OF MANY OTHER POWERFUL BEINGS WAS MAR-VELL ABLE TO DEFEAT THE DEMENTED SCHEMES OF THANOS AND EVENTUALLY AID IN HIS DEMISE.



" WITH PEACE RESTORED, MAR-VELL CAME TO RESIDE ON TITAN... UNTIL THE DAY HE WAS STRICKEN WITH AN ILLNESS, WHICH HE NEVER RECOVERED FROM...



" TRAGIC AS IT WAS, THE BANDS THAT GAVE HIM HIS PHOTONIC POWERS ALSO FED THE CANCER GROWING WITHIN HIS UNIQUE KREE PHYSIOLOGY...

" HE LINGERED FOR A SHORT TIME...



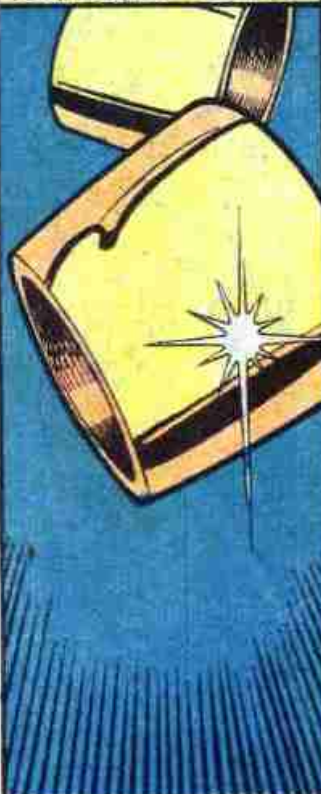
"...THEN, CAPTAIN MAR-VELL, KREE-BORN WARRIOR AND PROTECTOR OF TITAN AND EARTH, DIED!

" EROS AND MENTOR LAID HIM TO REST ON ONE OF THE ASTEROIDS ORBITING THIS MOON... IN A HIDDEN TOMB...



"...HIDDEN BECAUSE...

"...THE NEGA-BANDS HE WORE WERE TOO POWERFUL TO BE LEFT UNPROTECTED... THEREFORE, AN ELECTRONIC PROTECTION SYSTEM WAS DEvised TO PREVENT HIS REMAINS FROM BEING VIOLATED,



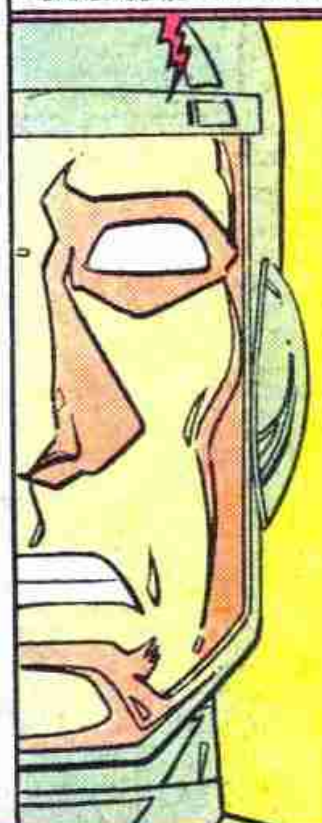
"...A SYSTEM WHICH APPARENTLY HAS FAILED."

" DATA RECALL AND TRANSFER COMPLETE... PREPARE TO EXCHANGE AND COLATE ALL EXISTING INFORMATION.



STATEMENT:

ALL LOGIC AND MEMORY SYSTEMS ARE LOCKED-ON, ISAAC. YOU MAY PROCEED.



INTERFACE

WHILE THE TWO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCES SEEK A SOLUTION, THE BATTLE CONTINUES--



ARRGHH!
HURRY UP,
HERC! I... I
CAN'T HOLD
THIS SUCKER
MUCH
LONGER!



THAT, MY FRIEND, IS A MYSTERY
TO BE SOLVED ANOTHER TIME!
FOR THE NONCE, OUR TASK BE
CLEAR! THE BASE VILLAIN
MUST BE VANQUISHED NOW!



THE POWER OF THESE
NEGA-BANDS IS INCREDIBLE!
NOTHING CAN RESIST
THEIR PHOTONIC
MIGHT!



BUT THERE REMAIN A
FEW WHO ARE WILLING
TO TRY--

MENTOR--
ART THOU
WELL
ENOUGH TO
CONTINUE?

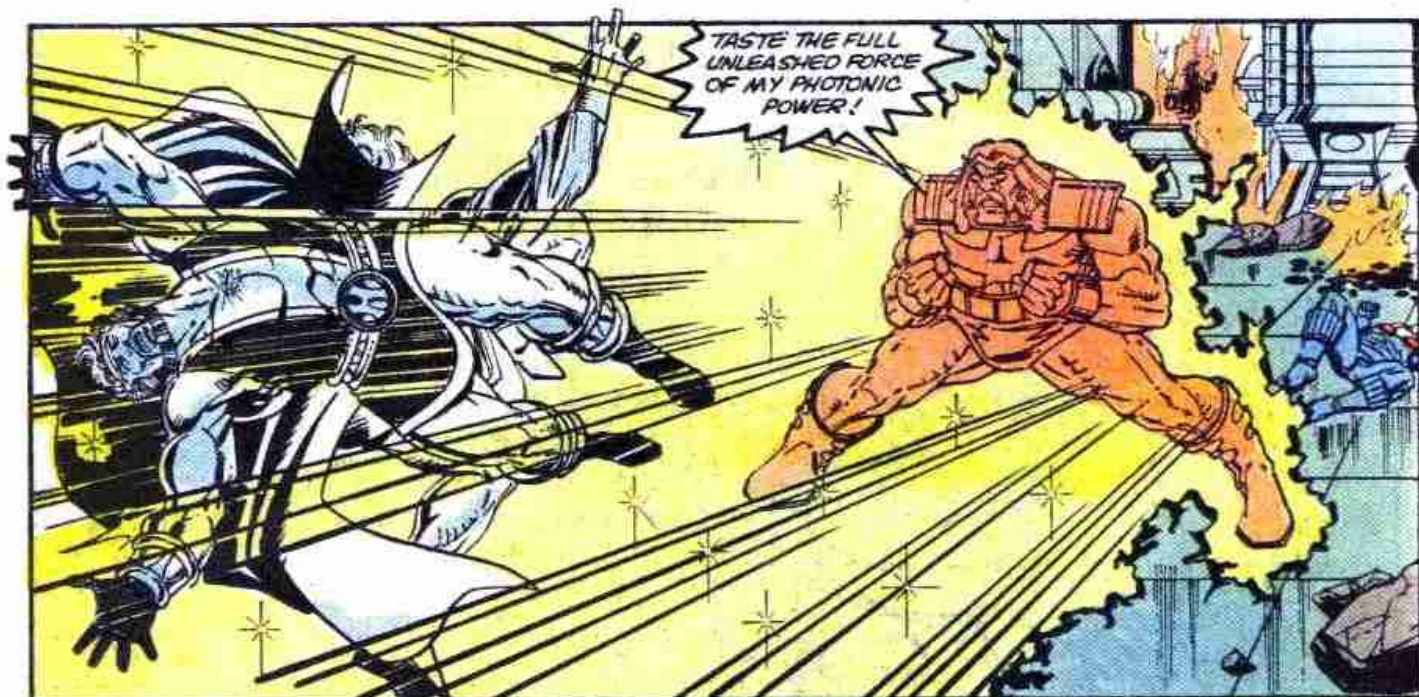


I'LL BE ALL RIGHT, BUT...
SOMETHING IS AMISS HERE,
HERCULES! CAPTAIN MAR-VELL
NEVER WIELDED POWER
OF SHRECK'S MAGNITUDE!

I AM THROUGH TOYING
WITH YOU, GOD-TRASH!



FEEL NOW THE
PAIN OF THE
JUDGMENT
OF THANOS!



TRUE TO HIS WORD, THE GLORY THAT IS TITAN BEGINS TO FALL INTO BURNING RUBBLE!



MEANWHILE, HAVING COMPLETED HIS TASK WITH ISAAC, THE RECORDER RETURNS TO HIS MASTER'S SIDE!

INTERROGATIVE:
ARE YOU THERE, SIR?
YOU MUST AWAKEN!

UHHH...



STATEMENT:
I AM RELIEVED
TO SEE YOU
FUNCTIONAL, LORD
HERCULES! I
BELIEVE I HAVE
THE INFORMATION
YOU SOUGHT!

UH... W-WELL, SPEAK
THEN, RECORDER!



STATEMENT: IT WOULD
SEEM THAT THE SHRECK-
BEING DERIVES HIS ENERGY
FROM THE SOLAR UNITS
OVERHEAD!

SPECULATION: ISAAC
AND I BELIEVE THAT WHAT
IS NEEDED IS TO EXPOSE
HIM TO AN INORDINATE
AMOUNT OF PHOTONIC
ENERGY!

ART THOU MAD?
WILL THAT NOT
MAKE THE FIEND
EVEN GREATER
IN STRENGTH?



STATEMENT: THERE IS NO TIME
TO EXPLAIN OUR HYPOTHESIS SIR!
YOU WILL FIND SOLAR GENERATORS
APPROXIMATELY 70.03 METERS
FROM HERE! YOU MUST ATTEMPT
TO EXPOSE HIM TO ITS CORE!



I DO HOPE
THOU ART CORRECT,
RECORDER! THE FATE
OF TITAN RESTS
IN THE TRUTH
OF THY WORDS!

TRUSTING IN HIS METALLIC FRIEND'S
JUDGMENT, THE LION OF OLYMPUS
RACES TO THE SOLAR GENERATORS!
THERE HE BEGINS HIS PLAN, TO
LURE HIM--











-- BEWARE... THE
HIGH FATHER. --

NEXT ISSUE:
THE SHATTERING CONCLUSION:
"A PEARL OF
GREAT PRICE!"
WHAT DID YA EXPECT-- A
DRUNKEN GALACTUS?!!